

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/26/2024 5:22:56 PM

First name: Ted

Last name: Hogan

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The current Northwest Forest Plan does not do enough to protect our forests from the devastating wild fires that are more and more common. When the plan was established in 1994, there was not as much evidence of climate change as there is now. The NWFP was not intended to be static which is why something needs to be done to address the affect climate change has on the forests.

I am in favor of NWFP Amendment that would adjust the plan direction to improve fire resilience in our forests. This includes clearing fire ladder fuels such as smaller trees to help protect the old growth trees. Sustainable logging of the non old growth trees would help off set government costs and reduce catastrophic wild fires. Mowing, forest mastication, control burns, pile burning should all be included in this amendment. And these should be done with less red tape to speed up the process. It is imperative that this is done as soon as possible before we lose more of our forests and communities to wild fires.

I also hope the NWFP Amendment will include lands in Wild and Scenic areas such as rivers and streams. Wild fires have a devastating impact to habitat in steams which is why Wild and Scenic Rivers and land surrounding them need to be include in the amendment.

Clearly the current NWFP is not working. The Forest Service needs to do a better job of managing our forests to protect the forests, especially old growth trees, and communities near by. I hope the NWFP Amendment will include my suggestions stated in this letter. Thank you.